Our Toronto

VOL. 3 **ISSUE 2** SUMMER 2010

Building a great city – together

G20 TORONTO
CANADA 2010

Toronto welcomes the world

CANADA has chosen Toronto to host the Group of Twenty (G20) Summit on Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27, 2010. The city's demographic, economic, and cultural attributes, its modern transportation and telecommunications infrastructures and well-developed tourism sector make it ideally suited to host an international diplomatic event as large and important as the G20. Toronto first hosted a G8 Summit in 1988.

The Summit and its thousands of visitors will generate economic and tourism benefits for the businesses and residents of Toronto. It will also showcase environmental programs and green initiatives developed to reduce the environmental impact of such a large international event. Leaders, delegates, media, non-governmental organizations, and civil society groups from around the world will be pouring into Toronto hotels, restaurants, and shops.

The Summits Management Office of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is the organizer and coordinator of the G20 Summit in Toronto. Summit staff are on the ground and in contact with the City and its many communities – corporate, commercial, residential, government, cultural, civil society and media – to provide timely and accurate information about the organization of the G20 Summit.

The G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation. World leaders gathering at this Summit will focus on building a healthier, stronger and more sustainable global economy. Canada's global leadership on these issues is evident in its strong economic track record, vibrant banking system and stable political and social conditions.

Look at the centre pages in this issue for a map and more details.

G20.gc.ca
G202010@international.gc.ca

TORONTO

The official publication of the City of Toronto

WHAT'S INSIDE

G20 14-16

Election accessibility 2
24/7 road maintenance 4
New City-wide Sign Bylaw 4
A busy summer on our roads 5
Child care quality ratings 6
Window and balcony safety 6
Growing food locally 7
Correct car washing 8
Seasonal water tips 8
Managing stormwater 9
Services for seniors 10
Toronto meet your new ride 11
Toronto's balanced budget 12
Waterfront news 13
Bike safety 17
Meeting small business' needs 17
Beat the summer heat 18
BBQ safety tips 18
Rescuing abandoned pets 19
Pools, parks and golf in the City 20
Pioneer Village 21
Healthy snacking 22
Summer reading for kids 22
New Zoo exhibits 23
Recycling your electronics 24
Fostering partnerships 25
Green Toronto Award winners 26

Subscribe to City publications and alerts at toronto.ca/e-updates and follow the City on Twitter @TorontoComms

Community Environment Days, see back page.

Our Toronto

Building a great city – together

Our Toronto is distributed via Canada Post to every household in the city. Fully-accessible PDF and audio versions are also available on the City's website **(toronto.ca/ourtoronto)**. You can read it online in the languages listed below, or contact us to have a printed copy in your language mailed to you. Call, write or e-mail to get a Braille or large print version mailed to you.

Vous trouverez ce journal en français au site web ci-dessous. (French)

在以下所示網站上有該報紙的中文版本。 (Chinese)

இந்தச் செய்தித்தாளின் தமிழ்ப் பிரதி பின்வரும் இணையத் தளத்தில் இடம்பெற்றுள்ளது. (Tamil)

Questo giornale è disponibile in italiano sul sito Web che segue. (Italian)

Este periódico está disponible en español en el sitio web indicado abajo. (Spanish)

Este jornal está disponível em português no sítio Web abaixo indicado. (Portuguese)

Makikita ang Tagalog na edisyon ng pahayagang ito sa website sa ibaba. (Tagalog)

یہ اخبار نیچے دی گئی ویب سائٹ پر اُردو زبان میں دستیاب ہے۔ (Urdu)

Данная газета на русском языке имеется на нижеуказанном веб-сайте. (Russian)

این نشریه به آدرس انترنتی ذیل به زبان فارسی قابل دسترسی میباشد. (Farsi)

이 신문은 아래의 웹터에서 한국어로 보실 수 있습니다. (Korean)

toronto.ca/ourtoronto

Contact us
Our Toronto
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
7th Floor, West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
ourtoronto@toronto.ca
Call: 311

Because we care
The printing of *Our Toronto* meets the highest environmental standards. The paper contains 100% recycled fibre and is printed using vegetable inks. Printing is done by a print shop that conforms to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) requirements.

FSC Recycled

Accessibility a priority in next election

CHANGES to the Municipal Elections Act have made accessibility a priority in the upcoming municipal election. The Act now requires that all voting locations must be accessible and that the needs of any electors and candidates with disabilities must be considered and addressed. We want to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to vote and that voters and candidates have access to the information that they need.

Through the use of technology and the sharing of information, the City is making this election more accessible than ever before.

Outreach teams are working with community groups across the city to increase awareness and share election information through events, newsletters, web pages and community boards.

The City's election web page (toronto.ca/elections) is also a source of information. It provides information on who can vote, how to get on the voters' list, when, where and how to vote and who's running for mayor, councillor or trustee in your ward. The web page also provides information about what you need to know about contributing to a candidate's campaign and how to apply for the contribution rebate program, plus many more resources. Closer to Election Day, "How to Vote" guides will be available in 23 languages on the web page and will also be available at advance voting and election day locations.

We have added BrowseAloud® to the City's website. This free downloadable screen-reading tool translates text into speech, making the web site accessible to people with literacy issues, low vision or whose second language is English. New voting technology will allow individuals with disabilities to vote privately and independently. Our Voter Assist Terminals will be available during the weekend advance vote to help individuals with sight, sound and motor function disabilities.

To find out more about the 2010 municipal election visit our web page or to provide feedback on any of our accessibility initiatives please e-mail us at AccessibleElections@toronto.ca. You may also phone us at 416-338-1111 - press 6; for TTY Service call 416-338-0889.

toronto.ca/elections

Mayor David Miller participates in a Trees Across Toronto event, April 24.

Message from Mayor David Miller

THIS summer, Toronto will welcome Canada and the world as two major conferences touch down in our city. Both the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual General Meeting (May 28-31) and the G20 Summit (June 26-27) provide the city with the opportunity to showcase our strengths – our diversity, our commitment to the environment, our prosperity and all that makes Toronto such a wonderful place to live, work and play. They also provide us with a unique opportunity to maintain and develop new national and international relationships, partnerships and friendships.

The businesses and residents of Toronto will benefit from these events. This summer, government leaders, delegates, media, non-governmental organizations and tourists from across Canada and around the world will fill Toronto hotels, dine in our restaurants and shop in our stores.

These conferences and the resulting public attention will showcase our widely-recognized environmental leadership. The City's Power to Live Green strategy, the Green Roof bylaw, Tower Renewal, our Transit City light rail network or any other of the City's green strategies and initiatives support Toronto's leadership in doing the right things to fight climate change, save money and create jobs. Ultimately what we will be showcasing is a city that is prosperous, liveable and that provides opportunity for all its residents.

That is one of the reasons I was pleased to see our 2010 operating budget pass through Council. More details of this budget are available in this issue of Our Toronto, but I wanted to briefly share with you my thoughts on why this budget was important.

Building a great city takes commitment, partnership and sacrifice - from all of us. It continues to be my privilege to bear witness to the great things that are achieved when all of these attributes come together. As Mayor, I see the traits of commitment, partnership and sacrifice coming together everyday as collectively we work to build an even greater Toronto.

When I introduced the City budget in February, I said that you can't have a great city for free. It is through deliberate, targeted investments that we build a city I know Torontonians share a vision of.

Frankly, we have a great story to tell to those visiting Toronto this summer and those of us who live here. Our city is going through the biggest building boom in its history; led by a city government and a top-notch Civil Service that receives plaudits from around the world for everything from our financial planning, to the way we help the most vulnerable (like Streets to Homes), and our environmental programs.

Our challenge now is continuing to build a city that addresses increasing concentrations of poverty in the inner suburbs. The continued lack of permanent support from Ottawa and Queen's Park, despite the fact that Toronto sends far more in tax money to them than we get back in investments, makes this challenge even greater.

I know Torontonians and their city government are up to the task.

toronto.ca/mayor_miller

Gibson House

BUILT in 1851, Gibson House was the home of Scottish immigrant David Gibson and his family. He was a land surveyor who helped map early Toronto. Wanted by the government for participating in the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, Gibson was forced to flee to the United States, where he and his family remained for 11 years. On their return to York County, the Gibsons built this beautiful home and once again became active members of their rural community.

Today the Gibsons' story comes alive through interactive, hands-on programming for school students, community groups, museum summer camp, birthday parties, evening theatre and music events and more. The small fire at Gibson House on April 20 has not affected visiting hours.

toronto.ca/culture/museums

Toronto road maintenance: 24/7

WHETHER it's commuters, delivery trucks, transit vehicles, or cyclists commuting to work, the city's roads are important to all residents. The City of Toronto is at work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year maintaining 5,600 kilometres of roads.

When the snow flies in winter, crews salt, sand and plow the roads. In spring, crews repair more than just potholes; they tend to emergency and safety issues, such as sinkholes, road resurfacing and traffic signal maintenance.

In spring, sweeper trucks clean streets and sidewalks of the debris left over from winter. Crews also manually pick up dirt and litter from around parked cars and from boulevard areas as part of a coordinated effort with other City divisions.

Roadway sweeping continues throughout the year, with high traffic and high exposure areas cleaned more regularly. Some streets need to be swept daily. The most efficient time to do this work is at night, when traffic and parking are at the lowest levels, so street sweepers work 24/7 on rotating shifts, including weekends. Toronto's most vibrant festivals, parades and charity events usually happen on weekends, so crews are on hand soon after the event to clean the streets right away.

There's no season of rest for Toronto's road crews. They're at work at all hours of the day and night, to make sure that the roads are safe, clean and usable for everyone.

toronto.ca/roads

Toronto introduces new Sign Bylaw and Third-Party Sign Tax

The new sign bylaw establishes several Special Sign Districts, such as Yonge-Dundas Square (pictured) where signs establish and enhance an area's fundamental visual character.

ON April 6, 2010, two new initiatives came into effect related to signs in the city of Toronto.

City-wide Sign Bylaw

The new Sign Bylaw establishes the rules for the installation of all new signs throughout Toronto and reduces the number of sign bylaws from eleven to one. Those eleven bylaws had been in existence since before amalgamation. The new bylaw also contains one common, updated set of definitions and regulations that will make regulating signs much easier and more consistent.

The new sign bylaw regulates such things as the illumination of signs. These regulations seek to protect residential and natural areas that are near lighted signs. They restrict the maximum level of illumination of a sign, prohibit signs from spilling light onto adjacent properties and require illuminated signs to be shut off between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Approvals for new third party signs (billboards) in Toronto will be issued for a five year term, providing an opportunity for City staff to review whether a sign should remain at a given location as areas and neighbourhoods change.

New roof signs, which are often difficult to work into the design of buildings, are prohibited.

For any business seeking a sign variance, nearby residents and neighbouring businesses will be notified. Variances for new billboards will be decided upon by a new Sign Variance Committee.

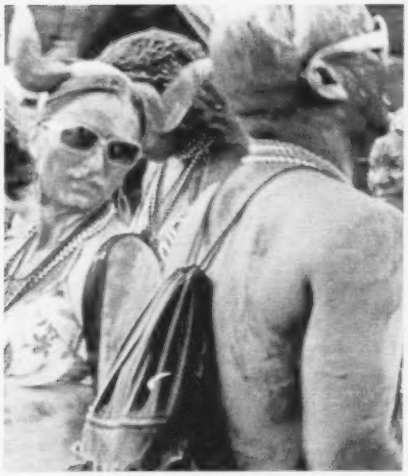
Third-Party Sign Tax

The new Third-Party Sign Tax will apply to the owners of all billboards in the city. It will require that owners of billboards that are greater than one square metre pay an annual tax. The revenue generated, expected to be approximately $10 million annually, will be used to support the new Sign Bylaw Unit as well as other City priorities.

A new Sign Bylaw Unit will be formed in the near future to administer and enforce both the harmonized Sign Bylaw and the Third-Party Sign Tax.

toronto.ca/signbylawproject

Toronto prepares for a busy summer of special events, extended road work



'Caribana' by Mario Reyes

SPECIAL events, together with a very ambitious capital works program, will combine to make this summer a very busy one on Toronto's streets.

The City is moving forward on its aggressive road and watermain construction work to keep the City's infrastructure in a state of good repair. The City is spending more than $250 million to improve the quality of Toronto's roads and bridges. An additional $80 million will also be spent on road work relating to watermain and sewer replacement, and public realm initiatives. The City has been able to accelerate its road and watermain construction work in part thanks to funding received from the federal government's Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

Toronto's road network also plays host to the dozens of festivals and special events that entertain us each summer. Hundreds of thousands of people will be taking to Toronto's streets each weekend at events such as Pride (June 25 – July 4), the Beaches Jazz Festival (July 16 – 25), Caribana Festival (July 15 – August 1) and Taste of the Danforth (August 6 – 8). In addition to Toronto's many excellent annual festivals, this year Toronto is hosting the G20 Summit in the downtown core on June 26 and 27. There will be significant closures in the area of the Summit in preparation for hosting the world leaders.

A major Shriners convention will hold parades on University Avenue on July 6 and 7; and the Canadian Open Golf Tournament at St. George's Golf and Country Club will close Islington Avenue from Eglinton Avenue to The Kingsway between July 10 and 30.

Although the associated traffic congestion can be an inconvenience, Toronto's ability to host festivals and international conventions provides both free entertainment for our residents and creates thousands of jobs. Visitors to Toronto leave behind $5.7 billion each year, and many of them come because of our festivals.

If you're looking for something to do or planning to drive through the City's neighbourhoods, check out the websites noted below for information about road-related construction work as well as special events to help you to move around the city effectively. Remember that public transit is almost always the most efficient and economical way of getting around. For people living in the suburbs, large parking lots are available at many transit stations where you can transfer to the GO Train or subway for the rest of your trip. Given how busy the summer will be, make sure that you allow extra time to get to and from your destination.

toronto.ca/eventcalendar
toronto.ca/torontostreets

CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN / PLAN D'ACTION ÉCONOMIQUE DU CANADA

2010 Transportation Capital Works Program

TOP 10 ROAD PROJECTS

Steeles Avenue
Kennedy Rd. to Albion Rd.
April-August 2010

Roncesvalles Avenue
Queen St. W. to Dundas St. W.
July-November 2010

Victoria Park Avenue
Lawrence Ave. E. to Highway 401
April-November 2010

Lawrence Avenue East
Kingston Rd. to Bennett Rd.
June-November 2010

Bloor Street West
South Kingsway to Keele St.
May-December 2010

Bermondsey Road
Eglinton Ave. E. to O'Connor Dr.
June-November 2010

The West Mall
Bloor St. W. to Burnhamthorpe Rd.
July-November 2010

Parliament Street
King St. E. to Gerrard St. E.
July-December 2010

Front Street East
Sherbourne St. to Eastern Ave.
July 2010 to May 2011

Eastern Avenue
Front St. E. to Sumach St.
July 2010 to May 2011

Two new child care centres to open this fall

THE opening of two new City-operated child care centres in Regent Park this year will be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood. The demand for child care in many of Toronto's neighbourhoods is growing every year and the City is working hard to anticipate and meet these needs.

A brand new facility at 10 Cole will open this summer and another centre will move and re-open this fall in a newly-renovated building, co-located with a parenting and youth program at 30 Regent.

toronto.ca/children
or call 416-392-KIDS

Quality ratings for licensed child care

Parents can find high quality child care using the City's online tool at toronto.ca/qualityratings.

PARENTS looking for quality child care have access to a great tool that can help them make informed choices for their children. The online tool – a "Quality Ratings" system – allows parents to compare licensed child care centres to see ratings on a centre's daily programs, health and safety, nutrition and more.

In Toronto, all child care centres with a service contract for a fee subsidy are assessed by the City on a set of quality standards. A parent should expect that a licensed child care centre will deliver a high quality program that allows children opportunities for play, socialization, exploration and developmentally appropriate learning in a safe and nurturing environment.

toronto.ca/qualityratings
or call 416-392-KIDS

Window and balcony sa

Are your windows and balconies safe for toddlers and visitors to your home?

SINCE 2000, more than 60 children have fallen from windows or balconies. Most of the incidents occur in the afternoon (68 per cent); 53 per cent of the falls are from a second floor window or balcony; and 70 per cent of the injuries are to boys between 1 and 5 years of age.

Toronto Emergency Medical Dispatchers and Paramedics are prepared to answer your 911 call but would rather prevent the need for the call. Toronto EMS has partnered with emergency services across Canada and the Canadian Window and Door Manufacturers Association to help prevent falls from windows and balconies:

- DO lock rooms that are unsupervised
- DO educate children about risks and dangers associated with windows and balconies

- DO install and maintain window and door safety devices
- DO ensure that safety devices have emergency release mechanisms so that they do not impede emergency escape or rescue
- DO complete a safety check with your child's caregiver to ensure they understand potential dangers around windows, balconies and decks
- DO phone 911 in an emergency and be ready with your location and the nature of the emergency.

windowandbalconysafety.ca

From swiss chard to cucumbers – you, too can grow food in the city!

WITH spring upon us, it's time to unleash your urban farmer and join the growing movement toward urban agriculture.

You don't need a large backyard to grow your own vegetables, herbs and fruits. Garden beds can be any shape or size as long as you can reach the middle to weed, plant and harvest. If space is limited, consider growing herbs in a container or mix your vegetables with ornamental plants. Many vegetables are very attractive and can substitute for annuals.

These are just a few tips featured on the City's new "How to grow your own food and eat healthy" handout, that can be found on our website.

The City of Toronto is committed to promoting urban agriculture as a key element of its Climate Change Action Plan. Local food not only tastes great, but it travels less, which means fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 2008, the City, through Live Green Toronto, has provided more than $800,000 to community organizations working to breathe new life into neglected areas, and to create food that is healthy, affordable and culturally diverse.

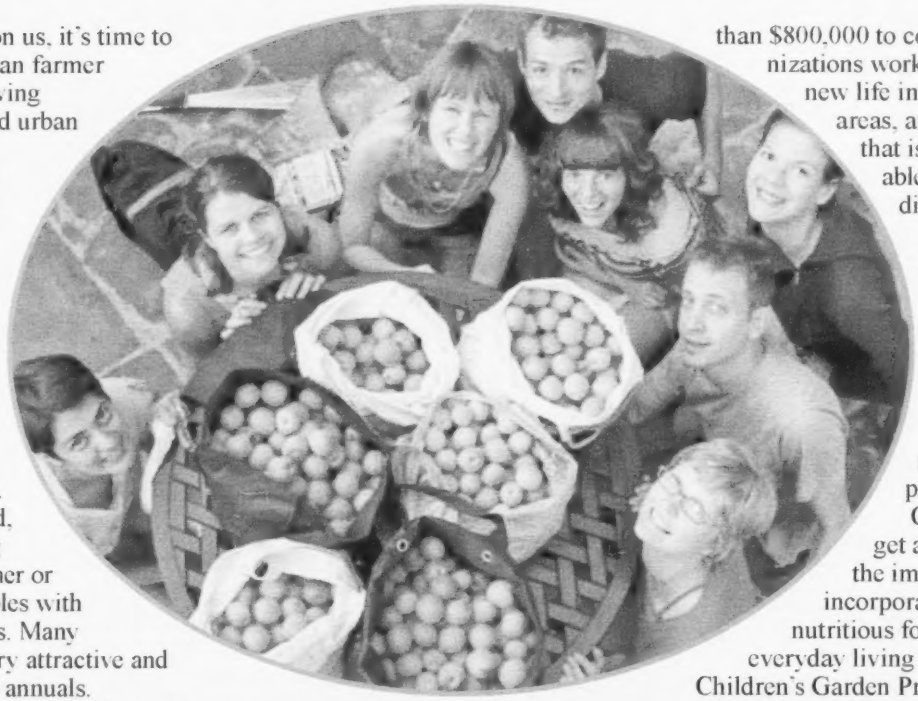
The City also offers a number of programs to connect Torontonians of all ages with the hidden wonders of nature and food production.

Children can get active and learn the importance of incorporating healthy, nutritious food into everyday living through the Children's Garden Program.

Residents without access to land can register for a plot at one of the City's allotment gardens or come together to create a community garden on City-owned land.

For more information on the City's urban agriculture programs and resources, visit the "Green Your Life" link on the website below, and click "Local Food".

livegreentoronto.ca



Livegreen Toronto

Volunteers of Not Far From the Tree pose with their harvest. The organization is a non-profit dedicated to helping Toronto homeowners unburden their neglected fruit trees. In 2009 alone, volunteers picked over 8,000 pounds of fruit, which was evenly distributed among the homeowners, volunteers and various food agencies in Toronto. Visit notfarfromthetree.org to learn more.

City staff receives financial reporting award

ON May 11, 2010, Toronto City Council recognized staff for winning the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) award for Financial Reporting for its 2008 Annual Financial Report. This award reflects best practices of the United States and Canada for annual financial reporting delivered by City finance staff. Winners of the prestigious award are recognized for exceeding requirements as set by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, and for producing comprehensive annual financial reports with the highest level of transparency and full disclosure. This is the third consecutive year that city staff have received this award.

The right way to wash your car

IT'S a warm sunny afternoon, the grass is cut, the trees are trimmed – the last item on your to-do list is washing the car. But don't get out the hose and bucket; instead, plan a trip to the local commercial car wash.

Your car is dirty, but it's not just dirt. That dirt can contain toxic chemicals, heavy metals, oil, grease and unacceptable levels of acidity. When you wash a car in your driveway or on the street, that dirty water runs into the storm sewers and straight into local streams and rivers, and even the lake.

Instead of washing your car at home, you can help by taking your car to a commercial car wash facility. The used water from these facilities is discharged into the sanitary sewer system and is treated at a wastewater treatment plant. Using a commercial car wash ensures that public health and aquatic environments are protected from the harmful effects of dirty water entering the storm sewers. An additional benefit is that these facilities use a lot less water.

Remember, the grates on the roads are storm sewers and are meant only for rainwater or melted snow because they generally flow directly to the nearest waterway. To help prevent unwanted chemicals from entering storm sewers, Toronto has a Sewer Use Bylaw that carries fines of up to $10,000 for first-time offenders.

toronto.ca/water
or call 311

Seasonal water tips

Outdoor water efficiency

The spring and summer months are a time when Torontonians take pride in their lawns and gardens, but there is also an increase in the demand for water in these warmer seasons. Maintaining a beautiful lawn and garden is rewarding, and it can be done water-efficiently by following these simple tips:

- ✓ Don't over water your lawn – a healthy lawn only needs 1.5 – 3 cm of water once per week, including rainfall.
- ✓ If needed, only water your lawn in the cool part of the day (e.g. early morning) and give it a deep soaking – frequent watering encourages shallow root growth and unhealthy grass.
- ✓ Use a trigger nozzle on your hose and avoid puddles/runoff when watering your lawn.
- ✓ Raise your lawn mower's blade level to 6 – 9 cm.
- ✓ Don't apply fertilizer (nitrogen) in the summer – new growth requires more water.
- ✓ Plant native, drought-resistant trees and plants.
- ✓ Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants to slow the evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth.
- ✓ Sweep sidewalks and driveways clean instead of using a running hose.

Basement flooding prevention

Toronto's sewer system is designed to handle most rain storms, but severe storm events sometimes seen in the spring and summer can overload the system. While the City is working to improve the sewer system, (work has already begun in many areas of the city experiencing chronic basement flooding) there are also many steps homeowners can take to help prevent basement flooding:

- ✓ Don't pour kitchen grease down the drain.
- ✓ Clear eavestroughs and downspouts of debris.
- ✓ Disconnect downspouts that empty into the City's sewer system, where appropriate.
- ✓ Install a backwater valve and a basement sump pump.
- ✓ Use soft-surface landscaping (e.g. porous pavement, shrubs).
- ✓ Ensure the ground is sloping away from foundation walls.

Homeowners can also take advantage of City subsidies of up to $3,200 per property to assist with the cost of installing certain flood protection devices. To report a flooded basement, call 311, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more details on basement flooding prevention and the available subsidies, visit toronto.ca/water.

toronto.ca/watereff

Managing stormwater is everyone's job

STORMWATER management is the control of rainfall and melting snow as it flows through Toronto's sewer system. Properly managing stormwater will protect the quality of water and aquatic life in the city's waterways and Lake Ontario, as well as preventing property damage from flooding. While federal and provincial policies drive stormwater management, the real work lies with municipalities – and both the city government and residents play an important role.

Toronto has a large amount of non-porous surfaces such as paved roads and sidewalks, as well as the roofs of buildings and houses – all of which prevent the natural absorption of stormwater. This "runoff" is directed to catch basins, collecting dirt, oil, grease and other pollutants along the way. In most areas of the City, runoff flows into Toronto's extensive stormwater sewer system (4,500 km in all) to some 2,600 outlet pipes and then into local creeks, rivers and wetlands, eventually making its way to Lake Ontario.

Other areas of the city have combined sewers in which the runoff is carried in the same pipes as sanitary sewage. During times of heavy rainfall, the system can become overloaded, causing a mix of excess stormwater and sewage to overflow into our rivers, streams and Lake Ontario, leading to degraded water quality conditions. It even affects Toronto's beaches.

LIVEGREEN TORONTO FESTIVAL
AUGUST 28-29, 2010
Yonge-Dundas Square
Details at livegreentoronto.ca

Residents can help keep local waterways clean by disconnecting their downspout and installing a rain barrel.

Toronto's Wet Weather Flow Master Plan is a long-term plan to help manage stormwater and protect the environment. The plan includes the construction of ponds, wetlands and stormwater facilities; stream restoration; basement flooding protection programs; and measures to control water where it falls such as downspout disconnection and pilot projects for green roofs.

Residents can also play a part in managing stormwater. Simple steps such as using a rain barrel to collect rainwater for use on your garden and lawn, increasing green space around your home, using water-efficient plants and disconnecting your downspouts from the City's sewer system, where appropriate, will reduce the amount of stormwater flowing directly into the system. Just as important is being protective of what goes down the drain: don't use pesticides on your lawn or garden (it's illegal), never pour anything other than water down a sewer grate, and wash your car at the car wash. Be sure to pick up pet waste and litter from your property – these simple steps go a long way towards protecting our water quality.

toronto.ca/water

Services for seniors

TO help people to stay in their homes and live independently for as long as possible, Toronto Long-Term Care Homes and Services co-ordinates a variety of community services for those who meet health and financial eligibility criteria.

Homemakers and Nurses Services – light housekeeping, laundry, help with meal preparation and limited shopping for clients living in their own homes.

416-392-8545
toronto.ca/ltc/services_homemakers.htm

Supportive Housing – homemaking service plus personal care such as bathing, medication reminders, and security checks for clients who are tenants within designated buildings.

416-392-8545
toronto.ca/ltc/services_suphousing.htm

Adult Day Programs– wellness and activity programming, along with nutritious meals, for clients who visit the program sites.

416-392-8545
toronto.ca/ltc/services_adultday.htm

The City co-ordinates many services to help people live independently.

Other programs to assist seniors to remain independent like meals-on-wheels, friendly visiting and transportation services are available by contacting Community Care Access Centres. Community Care Access Centres also manage access to all of Toronto's long-term care homes.

ccac-ont.ca
or call 416-310-CCAC (2222)

New supportive housing site opens

Supportive housing offers 24-hour on-site services.

THE City has received new funding from the Local Health Integration Network, and is using the funds to expand its supportive housing program at Cliffwood Manor, a Toronto Community Housing building. The City is now able to provide 24-hour on-site supportive housing services for eligible tenants. Operated by Toronto Long-Term Care Homes and Services, on-site services include health and wellness programming, personal care (e.g. bathing, dressing), homemaking services (e.g. laundry, cleaning, meal preparation), counselling, security checks and medication reminders for up to 50 clients.

toronto.ca/ltc/services_suphousing.htm or call 416-392-8545

Redevelopment planned for Kipling Acres

KIPLING Acres, one of the City of Toronto's 10 long-term care homes, is being redeveloped with capital funding from the City of Toronto and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The redevelopment is currently being planned in three phases. Phase 1 will include a new 192 bed long-term care home on the existing location. Phase 2 will consider adding other services to the existing location, to develop a "campus of care," with a vision to include independent living, supportive housing, plus complementary services, such as community space, a seniors' wellness centre, co-located City services and some retail space, all within the same complex. Phase 3 will consider constructing an additional 145 bed long-term care home.

The redevelopment of this long-term care home in Etobicoke will meet modern design standards and provide greater wheelchair access for residents in private and public spaces. Architectural design for Phase 1 is underway, with a target date for completion of the end of 2012.

toronto.ca/ltc

TORONTO MEET YOUR NEW RIDE

TTC launches public consultation for new light rail vehicle design

THE Toronto Transit Commission has announced the launch of a consultation program, inviting customers, Toronto residents and transit enthusiasts to learn about and get involved in designing its new fleet of low floor, accessible light rail vehicles.

In 2007, over 10,000 people were asked for, and offered advice about, what they wanted to see in a new streetcar. Last June the path was chosen for Toronto's newest transit rides. The TTC entered into a contract with Bombardier Transportation Canada Inc. to design and supply 204 new low floor, light rail vehicles (LRVs) to replace the Commission's existing fleet of streetcars.

The prototype vehicles will arrive in 2011 for extensive testing and the new LRVs will start passenger service in early 2013. Many design decisions have been made based on what was heard from the public in 2007. But there are still important decisions to be made.

The TTC is committed to working with customers to make the best possible design decisions. A design panel, consisting of leaders in industrial and interior design, arts, public transit and city building, will also help to create this new Toronto icon. Watch a short video, share your design ideas and help to suggest a name for your new ride.

lrv.ttc.ca
ttc.ca

Toronto's balanced budget protects City services

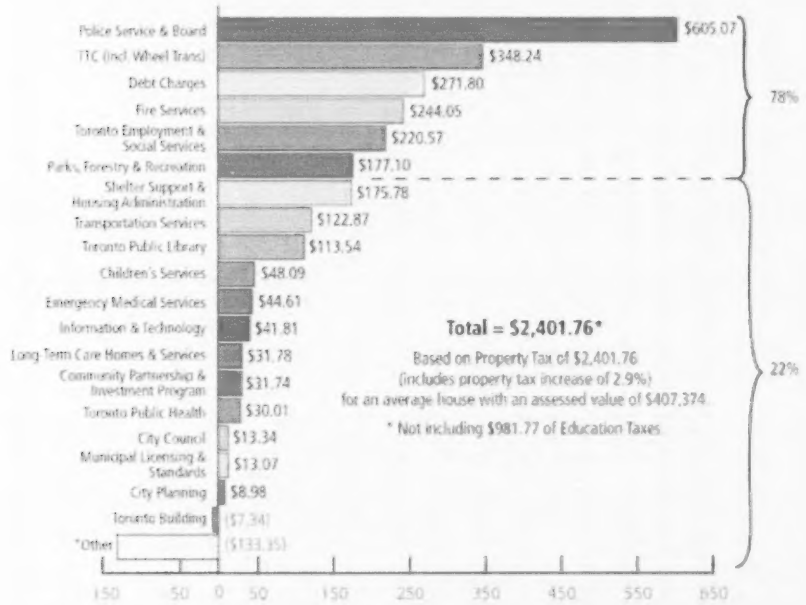
TORONTO City Council approved a 2010 Operating Budget of $9.2 billion that protects the City services that Toronto residents and businesses need and reflects the 24-hour/seven-day-a-week role that City government plays in delivering those services.

The 2010 budget makes strategic investments in City priorities such as emergency services, maintaining TTC service levels, children's services, recreation, social services, funding the ongoing impact of the recession, and the City's 311 service.

The budget continues to provide support to residents through tax help programs for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities. The budget also directs funding to programming for job seekers, youth and seniors through Toronto Helps initiatives.

Torontonians continue to have the lowest residential taxes in the GTA. A 2.9 per cent property tax increase on residential properties will mean an annual increase of $68 on a home with an assessed value of $407,374.

User fees make up about 15 per cent of the City's total budget. They help the City offset the cost of providing programming and other services. Often user fees only cover a portion of the cost of programming. This budget includes user fee increases and introduces some new fees for services that currently have no cost-recovery. The City has programs in place to help those who can't afford recreation user fees.



*Other includes services such as Facilities & Real Estate, Economic Development & Culture, Legal Services, 311 Customer Services, Court Services, Accountability Offices (Integrity Commissioner, Lobbyist Registrar, Ombudsman) and other Agencies, Boards and Commissions (Zoo, Exhibition Place, theatres, etc). Also included are major Non-Program expenditures to fund the solid waste rebate program, tax deficiencies, and employee related liabilities, etc. and various kinds of Non-Program revenues such as the carry forward of prior year surpluses, Payments In Lieu of Taxes, Municipal Land Transfer Tax, Personal Vehicle Tax, Interest/Investment Earnings, Toronto Hydro, Parking Authority and Parking Tag Enforcement & Operations

The City has programs in place to help those who can't afford recreation user fees.

Toronto's government supports local business by continuing to reduce the amount of revenues that come from business property taxes. The increase in business property taxes in 2010 will be held to less than one per cent (.967%).

The City balanced its 2010 budget through cost reductions, service efficiencies, service changes, TTC fare and user fee increases, new user fees, reducing debt, and generating a $355 million surplus from spending restraint, labour disruption savings, and other revenues. The use of one-time funds, along with revenues and cost-saving measures to balance the budget is necessary until the Toronto-Ontario Partnership Agreement for Permanent Sustainable Funding for TTC operating costs is reached.

toronto.ca/budget2010/index.htm

toronto.ca/taxes/property_tax/tax_relief.htm

Help rename Waterfront Park: vote now!

Your chance to become part of the history of our waterfront

WATERFRONT Toronto has teamed up with the news site, Torontoist.com, to find a new name for Sherbourne Park – a spectacular new city park opening this summer. Spanning more than two-city blocks at the foot of Lower Sherbourne Street from Lake Ontario to Lake Shore Boulevard, this new waterfront park is just a short walk from downtown Toronto.

In May, Torontonians were asked to submit their suggestions online for a new park name – a name that reflects the park's location in one of Toronto's newest, most sustainable and technologically-advanced communities. A place where woods, water and open greenspace come together with dramatic art sculptures, bold architecture and innovative approaches to sustainability.

Now that the park names are in, it's your turn to vote for your favourite name online. Log on between May 31 and June 15 to vote online or to learn more about the park. The winning name will be announced on June 16.

torontoist.com/park

Toronto's first "Underpass" park

AN under-used area beneath a series of overpasses just east of downtown is being transformed into an inviting and interesting park. Waterfront Toronto is building Underpass Park, the most extensive park ever to be built under an overpass in Canada and a first for Toronto. This new City of Toronto park will be located under and around the Eastern Avenue and Richmond/Adelaide overpasses, between Cherry Street and Bayview Avenue, and will open in spring 2011.

The 1.05 hectare Underpass Park is being constructed in the West Don Lands, the former industrial area south of King Street East and west of the Don River. The area, which will be home to the 2015 Pan American Games Athletes' Village, is being revitalized and remade into a mixed-use, family-friendly, green neighbourhood.

Designed to be a socially-engaging park for community members of all ages and abilities, Underpass Park will feature half basketball courts and other recreational spaces, playful climbing structures and play areas, flexible community space, community gardens, and public gathering places.

In keeping with Waterfront Toronto's sustainable development approach, the park will incorporate many best practices including: using reclaimed granite cobblestones for the community garden; making recreational court surfaces from recycled rubber materials; and planting more than 50 trees.

waterfrontoronto.ca

Before and after of Underpass Park, currently being constructed under the Eastern Avenue and Richmond/Adelaide overpasses.

G20 TORONTO
CANADA 2010

What to expect during the G20 – June 26 & 27, 2010

SECURITY for the G20 Summit is being managed by the Integrated Security Unit (ISU), a joint security team led by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in partnership with the Toronto Police Service, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Canadian Forces and Peel Regional Police.

All security planning is done to ensure the safety and security of Internationally Protected Persons, Summit staff and dignitaries, and the people who live in, work in, and visit Toronto.

Every effort is being made to ensure these security measures have the least possible impact on the day-to-day lives of Torontonians.

Members of the public will notice a significant number of police officers patrolling the downtown area in the days leading up to the Summit. These officers may represent police services from across the country. All of them have come to Toronto to ensure a safe and peaceful Summit.

The following information is provided to help you understand the impact of security planning and to assist you with navigating downtown Toronto during the Summit.

Subscribe to City publications and alerts at toronto.ca/e-updates and follow the City on Twitter @TorontoComms

Security Zones

There will be a zone immediately around the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in which vehicle and pedestrian traffic is strictly controlled. As with most international summits, security fencing will be used to secure this area and only those with RCMP accreditation will be allowed inside.

There are two other zones outlined on the map. The yellow line represents the Toronto Police Service Security Perimeter. The fence for this zone will be erected in the weeks leading up to the Summit. The Toronto Police Service hopes that members of the public will be able to move freely throughout the fenced perimeter until the evening of Friday, June 25. However, the Toronto Police Service will have the ability to control access to this area in the days leading up to June 25 if security reasons dictate such control.

Torontonians who live and work within this area have been offered a Registration Card in order to facilitate quick passage through the security checkpoints that will be part of the security perimeter.

Members of the public who have not received a Registration Card or who do not live or work in the area but require access into the security perimeter will have to present a piece of photo identification and clearly articulate a specific purpose and destination to be allowed through. This process may take some time and those seeking access into the security perimeter are asked to exercise patience when doing so.

Traffic

To keep traffic flowing as efficiently as possible, a traffic management strategy has been created to guide vehicles away from the security zones.

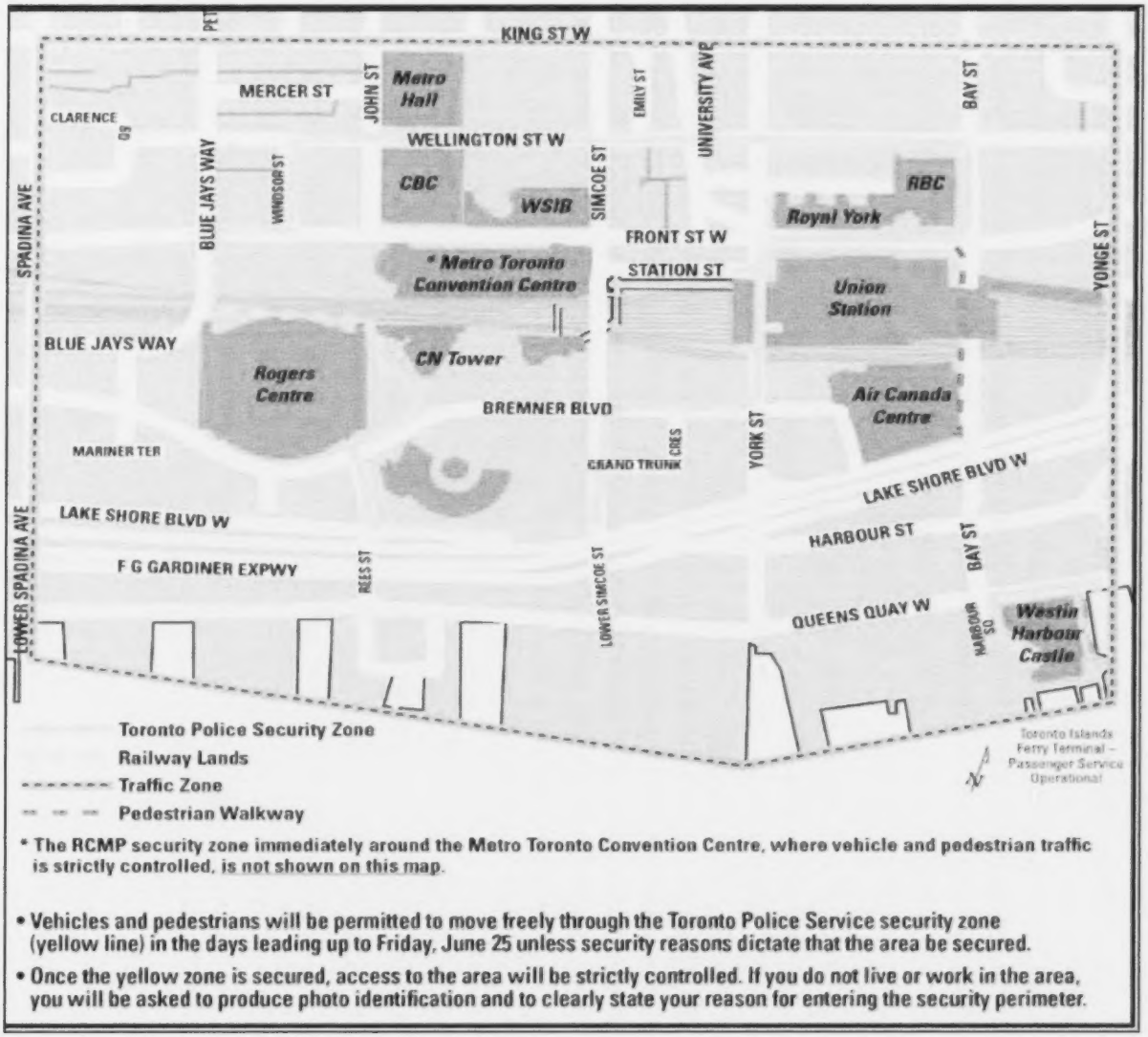
Routes in and out of the downtown area – including the 400-series Highways, the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard – will not be closed. However, there will be restrictions on Highway 427 and the Gardiner Expressway to accommodate motorcade travel. On Saturday, June 26 and Sunday, June 27 these restrictions will be ongoing throughout the day and significant traffic disruption is anticipated. Please listen to local media for up-to-the-minute road closure information.

In addition, the York/Bay/Yonge Streets exit on the eastbound Gardiner Expressway will be closed on Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26. The York Street ramp onto the westbound Gardiner Expressway will be closed on Sunday, June 27.

Roadways within the area of King Street, Yonge Street, Queens Quay and Spadina Avenue will experience closures or restrictions. Police officers will be located at many points around this area and will be working to redirect vehicles to alternate routes. This general traffic perimeter is represented on the map provided (blue line).

Anyone living, working or having a specific purpose and destination within this perimeter will be given access.

G20 security and traffic zones



*** The RCMP security zone immediately around the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, where vehicle and pedestrian traffic is strictly controlled, is not shown on this map.**

- **Vehicles and pedestrians will be permitted to move freely through the Toronto Police Service security zone (yellow line) in the days leading up to Friday, June 25 unless security reasons dictate that the area be secured.**
- **Once the yellow zone is secured, access to the area will be strictly controlled. If you do not live or work in the area, you will be asked to produce photo identification and to clearly state your reason for entering the security perimeter.**

Other road closures may occur to accommodate marches or protest activity. These will be communicated as soon as possible.

Toronto Islands Ferry passenger service will be operating, however, expect traffic disruptions in the area.

All traffic management details are subject to change. Members of the public can expect significant traffic disruptions in the downtown area and are encouraged to take public transit and listen to local media for the latest information.

Toronto Transit Commission

The TTC is operating regular service during the G20 Summit. There are no planned service restrictions to the subway and only a few surface routes will be diverted from the evening of Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27, unless security dictates otherwise.

The 6 Bay and 72A Pape bus routes will be diverted during the entire summit. The 97B Yonge bus and 503 streetcar route will be diverted on June 25 only, as those two routes do not operate on weekends. As well, both the 509 and 510 streetcars will not be stopping at Queens Quay station.

Any changes to TTC services will be communicated as soon as possible and customers are encouraged to register for TTC E-Alerts, visit www.ttc.ca, and listen to local media for up-to-date information in the event of unplanned disruptions.

...continues on page 16

...continued from page 15

GO Transit

GO Transit will be operating regular services during the G20 Summit.

Any changes that may be implemented to GO Transit services will be communicated as soon as possible and regular users of the system are encouraged to listen to local media and visit www.gotransit.com for the most up-to-date information.

VIA Rail Canada

VIA Rail Canada will operate its regular train schedule on Saturday, June 26 to Sunday, June 27. VIA Rail customers planning to travel by train to or from Toronto during this period should be advised that both departing and arriving trains may be delayed and to plan their travel accordingly. As more information becomes available, VIA will post updates on www.viarail.ca. Customers are encouraged to visit this website before their travel dates for the latest information.

Union Station

Union Station will be open during the G20 Summit. However, from the evening of Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27, exits to Front Street will not be in use. Travellers will have to exit using the east or west side of Union Station. In addition, the Blue Route between Union Station and the Air Canada Centre will be open.

During this time, no vehicle traffic will be permitted on Front Street, west of Bay Street. A temporary "Kiss & Ride" and a temporary "Taxi Stand" will be located on Front Street, east of Bay Street. Motorists wishing to access these locations should approach northbound on Bay Street from Lake Shore Boulevard West.

Traffic disruptions will be significant in this area and members of the public are encouraged to use public transit or the pedestrian walkways (dotted green line on the map) to go into or leave Union Station.

In addition, should security reasons dictate a securing of the perimeter prior to Friday, June 25, the above changes to Union Station will also be in effect at that time. Members of the public are encouraged to listen to local media for up-to-date information.

PATH

The entire underground PATH system will be closed from the evening of Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27 and will reopen for its regular hours of operation on Monday, June 28.

If security reasons dictate a securing of the Toronto Police perimeter (yellow zone on map) prior to Friday, June 25, members of the public will not be able to exit the PATH system into the security perimeter, nor will they be able to enter the PATH system from the security perimeter once it has been secured.

Parking

From Friday, June 25 to Sunday, June 27 there will be heightened enforcement of parking in the downtown area, particularly for the area surrounded by Queen Street, Yonge Street, Lake Shore Boulevard and Spadina Avenue.

There will be extremely limited parking or no parking available on the majority of streets within this area. In addition, there will be no parking on streets that have been closed to accommodate parades and protests.

All parking regulations for No Parking, No Standing and No Stopping will be strictly enforced. Vehicles may be tagged and/or towed. Members of the public who find their vehicle has been towed may call 416-808-2222 for further information.

Protests

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees freedom of thought, belief, opinion, expression and peaceful assembly. The Integrated Security Unit values these rights and will work to uphold them while ensuring that public safety, peace and good order are maintained in Toronto.

The ISU believes most groups will want to express themselves in a peaceful and responsible manner.

However, the police are preparing for any eventuality. Any interaction police have with demonstrators will be measured, balanced and appropriate to the circumstances at hand.

Specific charges will be applicable to anyone breaching a security perimeter or committing criminal offences.

Queen's Park North has been selected as the Designated Speech Area.

As a Designated Speech Area, Queen's Park North will be equipped with audio-visual equipment that will televise the activities at the Park to the delegates at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

It is our hope that people will take advantage of this area and express themselves in a peaceful, lawful way.

Community Outreach

For further information regarding the G20 Summit, please contact:

Integrated Security Unit – Community Relations Group (security related questions)
www.g8-g20isu.ca
crg-grc@g8-g20isu.ca
1-888-446-4047

City of Toronto
www.toronto.ca/G20
or call 311

Summits Management Office (non-security related questions)
www.g20.gc.ca
g202010@international.gc.ca

***Note: All information included in the preceeding article was correct at press time.*

toronto.ca/G20
or call 311

The most fun you can have with a helmet on

THE best (and most fun) way to learn traffic cycling and collision avoidance techniques is to enroll in a CAN-BIKE course. For many, cycling means freedom and adventure. Plus, when everyone learns good cycling habits when they first begin to ride, they can stay safe from the start. Take a CAN-BIKE course and learn to ride safely, help the environment and have fun! Courses are available now until September.

toronto.ca/cycling/canbike
or call 416-392-1311

Enterprise toronto — meeting the needs of small business

SMALL businesses are a driving force for job creation in the economic recovery and the City is committed to proactively help existing businesses grow and to help new firms start-up as quickly and effectively as possible.

Enterprise Toronto provides services and programs tailored to meet the needs of Toronto's entrepreneurs and small businesses, helping them to achieve their full potential so that they grow to create jobs and contribute to Toronto's prosperity.

According to Statistics Canada, small businesses created more than one-third of all new private sector jobs between 1998 and 2008. Toronto has the country's highest small business growth rate and the highest level of self-employed persons as a percentage of its total labour force. Between 2008 and 2009 the number of self-employed in Toronto rose by 7.5 per cent, while the national average was just 2.7 per cent.

Over the last four years, Enterprise Toronto has served more than 35,000 clients a year at its City Hall, North York Civic Centre and Scarborough Civic Centre locations, at its many events and seminars, and by interacting with clients on its website and over the phone.

This front-line service organization helps people make good start-up decisions as well as helping them to develop their management capabilities as their venture grows. Whether it is a consultation for creating a viable business plan, or by linking them to information concerning marketing, management and sources of financing; this unique City service also functions as a gateway for small businesses to access additional services in the City's Economic Development & Culture division.

Enterprise Toronto also facilitates a variety of public and private sector partnerships. Those relationships are evident within their many popular free events which include: the Morning Seminar Series, the Small Business Forum, and their partnership with CBC TV's Dragon's Den program.

enterprisetoronto.com

How to beat the heat and enjoy the summer

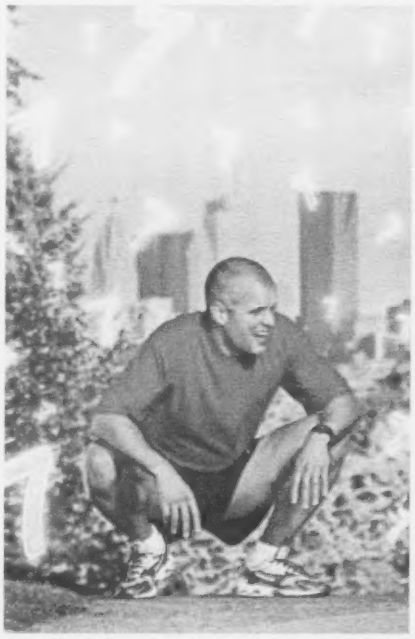
SUMMER brings opportunities to get outside and enjoy physical activities. But the summer heat may also increase risks to your health.

High levels of air pollution tend to occur during hot weather. The Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) measures air quality in relation to health on a scale from 1 to 10. The higher the reading, the greater the health risk, but there are simple steps you can take to protect yourself. Planning outdoor physical activity when the index reading is low can maximize the health benefits of exercise while minimizing exposure to air pollutants. When you exercise in polluted air, you breathe harder than normal and bring dirty air deeper into your lungs. If you continue to be very active during a Heat Alert, your body will have to work extra hard to keep cool.

Often, the AQHI reading is higher on the same days when there is a Heat Alert. Health risks on these days may increase for infants, children, the elderly, people with heart or breathing problems, the homeless and those who work outdoors. Here are some tips for hot and muggy summer months:

- Drink lots of water and natural juices; avoid alcohol.
- Call or visit family, friends and neighbours, especially isolated seniors, to ensure they are okay.
- Consult a pharmacist about the side effects of prescription medications – some medications make it harder for your body to control its temperature.
- Cool off during the heat of the day. Take advantage of air conditioned or cool places such as shopping malls, libraries and community centres.
- Never leave children or pets unattended in a car.

Protect yourself and those you care for by using the AQHI and Heat Alerts to plan your outdoor activities. Reschedule your outdoor activities to a time when the AQHI reading is lower and it is cooler. If you are active, drink plenty of water before, during and after exercise, wear a hat and loose-fitting, light coloured clothing that allows for the

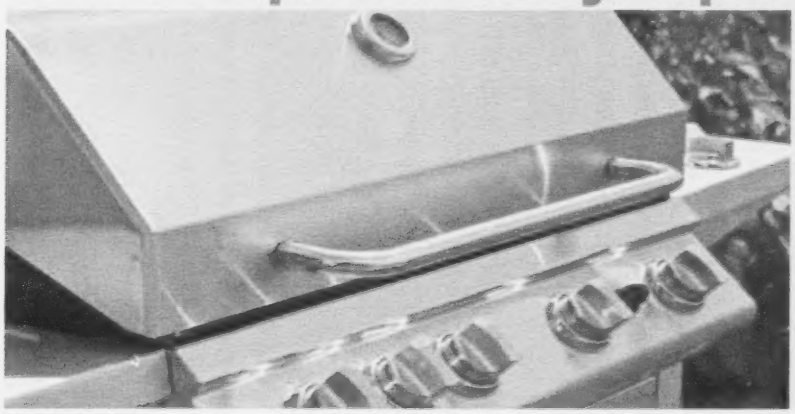


evaporation of sweat and take lots of rest breaks. If you start to experience symptoms such as a headache or difficulty breathing, reduce your activity level.

Signs of heat-related illness include weakness or fainting, rapid breathing, shortness of breath or confusion. In an emergency, call 911. Be prepared to report your exact location and symptoms.

toronto.ca/health or torontoems.ca/main-site/careers/safety-tips/hot-weather.html or call 311

Barbeque safety tips



1. Keep all parts clean including the grills and lava rocks. Watch for cobwebs in the Venturi tubes that connect the gas control knobs to the burner assembly.
2. Replace defective parts.
3. Coat the gas hose and connections with soapy water and watch for bubbles. Check for leaks in the gas hose with the tank valve on and the burner controls *off*.
4. Rusty and damaged propane cylinders or cylinders older than 10 years should be replaced. Call a certified fuel appliance repair person if you need assistance. Don't put empty propane tanks in recycling

Toronto Animal Services helps pets get a home. You can help too.

THESE two sisters were abandoned in a cold alley when they were just six weeks old. Thankfully, a local merchant found them and called Toronto Animal Services. Once at the shelter, the kittens were bathed, given medical care, lots of food and a warm place to sleep. In no time, they became healthy and rambunctious and have since been adopted to lifelong, loving homes.

Each year, more than 2,300 pets are adopted to new homes by Toronto Animal Services. All dogs and cats are spayed or neutered, microchipped, dewormed, vaccinated, and health-checked by on-site veterinarians before they are adopted out. Animal Services staff conducts in-depth interviews with the potential adopters to ensure that pets are placed with knowledgeable people who will provide long-term, caring homes. Small domestic animals such as rabbits, rodents and birds are also available for adoption.

Outside the shelters, Animal Care and Control Officers work daily around the city. They rescue and impound stray dogs and cats, rescue injured wildlife, pick up injured animals, investigate dog bites, and much more. Emergency response teams respond to calls to rescue injured stray animals, quarantine dogs and cats that have bitten, and assist police and fire services when required (arrests, pets rescued from residential fires and auto accidents).

Community outreach staff work with schools and neighbourhood associations teaching children how to live in harmony with animals, both in and out of the home.

You can help. If you can, adopt a cat or dog. Become a responsible pet owner and license your pet to ensure it is returned to you quickly if it is ever lost. If you can't adopt a pet, you can still help by donating to Toronto Animal Services. One hundred percent of licensing fees and donations go towards providing care and services for the animals in our shelters and community.

Visit Toronto Animal Services at one of our shelters, or watch for our booth at many upcoming festivals and events in Toronto this summer.

ANIMAL SHELTERS
Open 7 days a week
10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

North: 1300 Sheppard Ave. W.
South: 140 Princes' Blvd.
East: 821 Progress Ave.
West: 146 The East Mall

toronto.ca/animalservices

or garbage. Please take them to a City Drop-off Depot or Community Environment Day.

5. Secure your propane cylinder properly. Check for leaks before lighting your barbecue. Inspect the connection "O" ring for cracks whenever connecting to the cylinder.
6. Lift the lid before igniting. Open the propane cylinder valve and light the barbecue by pressing the igniter button. If applying a long match or lighter through the side hole, *always* have the match or lighter lit before turning on the burner controls. Watch for an even flame. Make sure that the side holes are free from debris.
7. Keep children and pets far away from a hot grill and make sure they are supervised.
8. Barbecue outside only. Keep the barbecue three metres from windows and doors and away from wooden fences, walls, combustible overhead roofs, and from trees with low hanging branches.
9. Keep the whole barbecue free of grease – so you won't have a serious grease fire.
10. Don't get burned! Protect yourself with long handled utensils, oven mitts and a heavy apron. If you get a minor burn, remember to cool it under cool water for five minutes. If your burn is serious (charring, blistering) seek medical attention right away.
11. When finished cooking, turn off the tank valve and, once the flame is out, only then turn the burner off.

toronto.ca/fire
toronto.ca/recycle

Summer fun at Toronto Island, City pools and golf courses

Toronto Island Park – offers a perfect break from city life, and it's just a short ferry ride away from downtown Toronto. This jewel of a park boasts more than 242 hectares of manicured and naturalized open spaces. During the summer, five ferries make scheduled trips between the Toronto Islands and the mainland daily.

Highlights include the Franklin Children's Garden, Gibraltar Point lighthouse, Far Enough Farm, Centreville amusement park, Frisbee golf course, jogging trails, beaches, the boardwalk, bike and boat rentals and numerous picnic areas.

toronto.ca/parks/island

Golf – The five conveniently-located City of Toronto golf courses represent a great opportunity to play or learn to play golf at affordable rates. Toronto's spectacular courses are a challenge for players of every skill level. Greens fees are extremely reasonable, with reduced rates for juniors and seniors. "Family night" has been introduced at all of the City's courses as a way of making golf affordable for families.

Each of the courses conducts club championships throughout the season, ending in the hugely popular overall City championship in September.

toronto.ca/golf

Indoor and Outdoor Pools – Swimming is often ranked as one of the best forms of exercise, perfect for any fitness or health program. With over 70 splash pads, 110 wading pools and 59 outdoor swimming pools, there are many places to cool off and get fit this summer. Both adults and children can learn to handle themselves around water – an experience that will stick with them for the rest of their lives.

The City of Toronto offers a wide-variety of swimming programs, which can be found in the current issue of your local FUN Guide.

toronto.ca/swim

City parks, yours to enjoy!

THE City of Toronto's parks system has 1,505 named parks, 8,045 hectares of green space and more than 200 kilometres of off-road recreational trails. They are yours to enjoy. Each year, the City of Toronto issues more than 280,000 permits for use of our parks and recreation facilities to more than 20,000 groups and individuals. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions about park permits:

When is a permit for park use required?

Generally, a permit for use of park space is required for organized activities with an expected attendance in excess of 25 people. There are also permit regulations for companies or enterprises conducting commercial activities on City parkland.

What kinds of activities do you issue park permits for?

Permits are issued for a wide variety of activities, which include sporting leagues and clubs, picnics, wedding photography, special events, and some commercial or business activities.

How do I get a permit?

To apply for a permit, call Parks, Forestry and Recreation at 416-392-8188.

Are there fees for park permits?

Yes, there are fees for some park permits. However, issuance of a permit does not necessarily mean that there are fees associated with that permit. Fees are Council-approved and determined with consideration for the type of activity, the nature of the group hosting the activity, and the equipment and resources that are required to support the activity. There is also a program in place that allows not-for-profit groups to apply for a fee waiver. Every year, the City waives approximately $30,000 in permit fees for not-for-profit organizations.

Why do groups or individuals need to get a permit?

Park permits are a mechanism to reserve exclusive time and space for use by a group or individual. This process also ensures that we know what types of activities are being carried out in City parks, who is

Visit beautiful Black Creek Pioneer Village

BLACK Creek Pioneer Village offers a unique opportunity right here in Toronto to step into another world and experience life as it used to be in early Ontario. A great place for families to explore, there's plenty to do and see for visitors of all ages. Heritage homes, workplaces and gardens have been restored to re-create an 1860s Ontario village. Every object in each building is a genuine antique, and many are still used today. Historic interpreters in period dress bring the village to life, answering visitors' questions and demonstrating how people lived, worked and played.

Smoke still curls from the chimney of the original Stong homestead, on the banks of Black Creek. Built in the early 1800s, it is now the heart of this beautiful 12 hectare green space.

Sheep going out to pasture — just one of the many things for families to experience at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Favourite destinations in the village include the farm, the doctor's house and the mill. At the Black Creek Historic Brewery, beer is brewed using all-natural ingredients, just the way the pioneers did it. Guests over the age of 19 can sample the beer right from the oak barrels.

Alongside the Hands-On History Centre, Black Creek Pioneer Village includes an event pavilion for concerts and theatrical presentations, an exhibition gallery and gift shop. Visitors can complete the experience with a delicious meal made from locally-sourced ingredients at the new Brewery Restaurant, along with a refreshing pint of original Black Creek Ale.

Open May 1 through December 31, Black Creek Pioneer Village is located north of Toronto, not far from the intersection of Highway 400 and Highway 7. Black Creek Pioneer Village is owned and operated by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA).

blackcreek.ca

responsible for them, what impacts there are on parks space and residents, and what resources are required to support the planned activities.

I just want to walk with my friends in our park or along a trail – do we need a permit?

No. Residents and visitors are invited to explore the City's beautiful parks system. Individuals and small groups who are simply walking in our parks for their own enjoyment are always welcome and encouraged to do so.

Where can I find out more about walking in City parks?

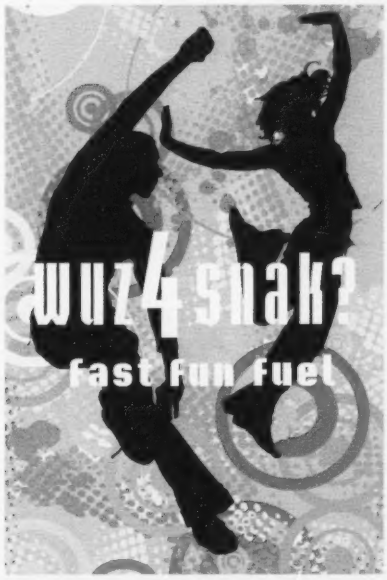
For more information, check out the Parks and Trails Map, a full-sized comprehensive city-wide map. This is an excellent resource that features updated trail and route locations, major trail access points and connecting links, street names, key TTC connections, and seasonal and year-round park washrooms. The map is available at civic centres or online at toronto.ca/parks.

You may also be interested in our Discovery Walks program. This is a series of 11 self-guided walking tours that link city ravines, parks, gardens, beaches and neighbourhoods. On-site interpretive and directional signage will help you experience each walk's outstanding natural, cultural and heritage attractions.

From the Humber River to the Rouge Valley and from the Oak Ridges moraine to the shores of Lake Ontario, Toronto's parks, trails, ravines and green spaces link our city together, both literally and symbolically. They contribute to the health and well-being of more than 2.8 million residents and the quality of life in the city's many diverse communities.

toronto.ca/parks
or call 311

Reach for a healthy snack at City facilities



THE City of Toronto promotes lifelong active living, which emphasizes physical activity supported by healthy eating habits. The "100% healthy snack vending" initiative increases access to healthy food choices at City facilities.

The nutritional criteria for healthy snacks have been developed based on levels of vitamins, minerals, fibre, fat, sugar and salt. Healthy snacks may include grain-based bars and snacks, dried or canned fruit, cereal and baked chips.

The pilot program will make 100% healthy snacks available at 20 City facilities. All other City locations will offer 20% healthy snack choices in their vending machines.

intohealth.ca

Sun, fun... and books!

TD Summer Reading Club among summer attractions at Toronto Public Library

STUDIES have shown that school-age children lose many of their reading skills over the summer months if they do not continue to read while they are out of school. Studies have also demonstrated that children who do not learn to read fluently by fourth grade will likely never feel totally comfortable with the printed word.

Based on these studies, it became clear that library staff could help by keeping children reading during the summer and making sure they have fun doing so.

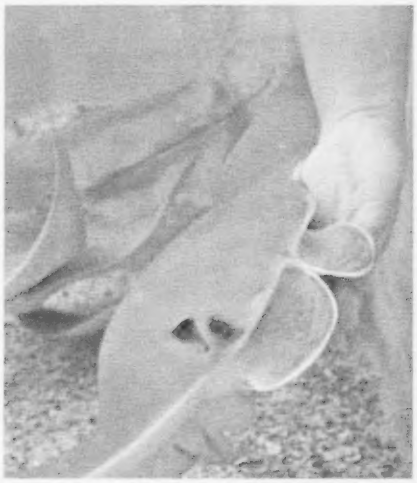
The award-winning TD Summer Reading Club, this year dubbed Destination Jungle, is free and available to all children in Toronto, through 97 library branches across the city. More than 30,600 Toronto children registered in 2009, and library staff made nearly 1,030 visits to schools and daycares. The TD Summer Reading Club is made possible by TD Bank Financial Group.

The library is also offering teens a summer reading program. Called Word Out!, the program is available at all Toronto Public Library branches. The teen program is completely separate, and quite different from that offered to children. It includes a great website, featuring an exciting array of book suggestions, offering teens the opportunity to socialize together online, sharing ideas about books and reading. Teens can also go into branches and read to have their fines forgiven.

torontopubliclibrary.ca
tdsrc.torontopubliclibrary.ca

An illustration from this year's jungle-themed Toronto Public Library TD Summer Reading Club, by official Club illustrator and Governor General's Award-winning children's book illustrator Stéphane Jorisch.

Family fun at Toronto Zoo



Sharks at Stingray Bay exhibit runs from May 22 to October 11, 2010.

CANADA'S premier zoo can be counted on to offer up lots of summer fun and unusual experiences for the whole family. Back by popular demand, the interactive Sharks at Stingray Bay exhibit runs from May 22 to October 11, 2010. (Admission is $3 plus tax, members included; free for children under 3.) This one-of-a-kind exhibit will feature up to 30 cownose and southern stingrays, bamboo and nurse sharks, and some new friends, horseshoe crabs. Visitors can safely interact with these beautiful and elusive sea creatures.

From June 26 to September 6, 2010, participate in a liberating and relaxing half hour mass drumming session with with the dynamic leaders of Drum Café.

Take the family on a tour of our award-winning 4-hectare Tundra Trek, where you can enjoy the antics of three playful polar bears in their spectacularly renovated five-times-larger exhibit, and get up close and personal to Arctic wolves, Arctic foxes, reindeer and other animals. This new Arctic experience opened on August 1, 2009 and offers up significant information on the impacts of climate change and global warming. For a change in pace, drop by our Caribou Café for a refreshing drink while you watch the Arctic wolves at play. Tundra Trek is free with admission to the Zoo.

Family fun is available all summer with walking trails, Keeper Talks, and six tropical pavilions, which are home to hundreds of birds, animals and exotic flowering plants and trees. Other available features are Splash Island, the Kids Zoo and the Waterside Theatre with two animal shows daily, all free with your Zoo admission!

torontozoo.ca

Summer in the city

SUMMER is in full swing and Toronto's streets are teeming with people eager to experience the exciting festivals, events and attractions available across this great city. Wondering where to go? Visit our online calendar to plan a day in Toronto you won't soon forget!

toronto.ca/eventcalendar

Concert series

THREE great concert series at Nathan Phillips Square and Mel Lastman Square offer live music, great artists, delicious food and fresh produce. **Sunday Serenades** (July 11 to August 22), **Fresh Wednesdays** (July 7 to August 25) and **Tasty Thursdays** (July 8 to August 26) are all-age events, designed to enjoy the warmth of the summer months and the liveliness of our city.

Farmers' markets

SUMMER is also the time to visit a Farmers' Market:

Metro Hall Farmers' Market
55 John Street, near King St.
Thursdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
May 27 to October 14, 2010
(no market on Canada Day)

Nathan Philips Square Farmers' Market
100 Queen St. West
Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
June 2 to October 13, 2010

North York Civic Centre Farmers' Market
Mel Lastman Square, 5100 Yonge St.
Thursdays, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
June 3 to October 28, 2010

Etobicoke Farmers' Market
Etobicoke Civic Centre,
399 The West Mall
Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
June 5 to November 6, 2010

Scarborough Farmers' Market
Scarborough Civic Centre,
150 Borough Dr
Tuesdays, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
June 15 to October 12, 2010

Check the Toronto Farmers' Market Network for information about farmers' markets.

tfmn.ca

Favourite City Feature, Favourite City Service

Do you have a favourite spot in Toronto? What's special about it?

I like to go to the places in the city that make you feel like you're not actually in a city. Places like the Don Valley Trail, High Park's Grenadier Pond or the Scarborough Bluffs.

Is there a City service that is special to you?

I love the waterfront, too, but for services, I have to admit it's the garbage and recycling. It's amazing how after separating the organic from the recycled from the rest, you can get down to one bag per week. Makes you think…

Sheldon Smith, Toronto

Plug into electronics collection for recycling

OUT with the old and in with the new. Now it's easier than ever to safely dispose of your unwanted electronic equipment. No more guilt about these devices going to landfill – all will be recycled thanks to a collaboration between the City of Toronto and Ontario Electronics Stewardship (OES).

Toronto first started accepting electronics for recycling at Community Environment Days in 1997, and since 2001, at City drop-off depots. The enhanced service of curbside collection from houses began in September 2009. To date, Toronto has diverted more than 4,000 tonnes of electronics from landfill, moving us ever closer to our goal of 70% diversion. Toronto is the first municipality in Canada to provide curbside collection of electronics.

Electronics accepted include televisions, computers, computer components, printers, copiers, typewriters, VCRs, cell phones, telephones and accessories, pagers, radios, MP3 players and cameras.

Curbside collection:

Place electronic equipment beside your Garbage Bin on garbage collection day. Large items can be put on the ground and smaller items in a free special bag provided by the City or in an open cardboard box (small electronics should not be put out as single items). The special electronic waste bag will be inserted in the new edition of the curbside collection calendar delivered to households this summer.

A truck (different from the one used for garbage collection) collects and brings the electronics to the City's Reuse Centre where they are packaged for shipping through OES transporters to OES approved processors and recyclers for recycling and safe, secure disposal of any potentially hazardous content. Both the box and special bag holding the smaller electronic items will be collected and recycled.

Multi-residential collection:

Based on the results of an electronics collection pilot for multi-unit buildings, the City plans to provide a collection service to these residents in the coming year. Watch our web page for more details or check with your property management this summer.

Drop-off depots and Community Environment Days continue to accept electronics.

toronto.ca/target70/electronics.htm

Toronto City Update focuses on the latest services, innovations and accomplishments at the City of Toronto – Canada's largest city and sixth largest government. This e-newsletter is for the public, stakeholders, media, City Council and staff.
toronto.ca/city-update (to read or to subscribe)

City's partners are TOPs!

IN Scarborough, a garden and community green space inhabits what used to be a barren piece of City land. In west central downtown Toronto, the community of Alexandra Park has come together to spruce up the neighbourhood and publish a cookbook. And youth in Jamestown, Eglinton East-Kennedy Park, Malvern and Weston-Mount Dennis are getting free digital arts and technology training at state-of-the art media centres.

These opportunities would not have been possible without partners - public and private sector, governments and non-profits - all making a contribution to the enrichment of life in Toronto. The City has created the Toronto Office of Partnerships (TOP) to encourage and facilitate these relationships.

The Scarborough garden grew out of the contributions of garden tool manufacturer Fiskars and Canadian Tire. Alexandra Park is cookin' thanks to The Toronto Community Foundation, Food Sleuth, writer and cook Marion Kane and Toronto Community Housing. Funding from Microsoft Canada is powering the media centres, which are located in low-income neighbourhoods across Toronto.

Toronto had some 300 companies, groups and individuals as partners in 2008. They ranged from Nissan Canada Foundation, Bell Canada and the Canadian Auto Workers to Afri-Can Food Basket, Sears Canada, Tim Hortons and Kids Helping Kids. Together, they contributed goods, services and funds worth almost $31 million. The City of Toronto thanks the individuals, companies and organizations that contributed to encouraging prosperity, opportunity and liveability for all residents.

toronto.ca/top/index.htm

Toronto: then and now

V-E Day celebrations, Bay Street, May 7, 1945

City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1266, Item 9624

THE Sterling Tower, on the right of the photograph, still stands at 372 Bay Street (on the south/west corner of Bay and Richmond streets). Designed in 1928 by Architects Chapman and Oxley, it was designated a heritage property by the City of Toronto on August 18, 1976.

The 'before' photo is featured in the City of Toronto Archives' web exhibit "V-E Day and V-J Day: The End of World War II in Toronto, 1945". John Boyd, a Globe and Mail photographer, captured the shot on May 7, the day before the official end of war in Europe.

The City of Toronto Archives presents many historical aspects of Toronto; visit the web page at the link below.

toronto.ca/archives

City of Toronto
BONDS The secure way to invest in your City.

Did you know that you can invest in City of Toronto Bonds?
City of Toronto Bonds are used to finance transit and infrastructure projects that benefit all residents. They are:

Secure – The City of Toronto backs both the principal and interest on City of Toronto Bonds.

Affordable - City of Toronto Bonds are available in amounts ranging from $1,000 to $500,000.

Advantages:
Tax Benefits - If you choose, you can hold City of Toronto Bonds in your self-directed RRSP or RESP or in a Tax Free Savings account.

Competitive Rates - Current rates are available from your financial institution or advisor.

Be Ready To Invest:
City of Toronto Bonds sell out fast! The next release of City of Toronto Bonds is anticipated in the summer of 2010. Contact or visit your financial institution today for more information.
Want more information on City Bonds?

toronto.ca/finance/city_bonds

GREEN TORONTO AWARDS

THE CITY OF TORONTO'S ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The City of Toronto's environmental awards of excellence honour and celebrate the individuals, organizations and companies leading the way to a cleaner, greener and more liveable Toronto.

Here are the winners of the 2010 Green Toronto Awards.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

GREEN CHANGE PROJECT
Jane Finch Community and Family Centre

The Green Change Project, an ambitious initiative run by the Jane Finch Community and Family Centre, strives to green its neighbourhood through a local resource centre that were trained to perform environmental audits for neighbourhood residents. The community tracked its environmental footprint and reduced carbon emissions by 2,000 tonnes.

LOCAL FOOD – NEW THIS YEAR

DEBBIE FIELD
FoodShare Toronto

Under Debbie Field's leadership, FoodShare has become Canada's largest community food security organization, creating sustainable systems, building communities and driving change. Its vision—good and healthy food for all—led the organization to deliver 800 student nutrition programs in 2009 alone. The programs, which are distributed universally to remove the stigma of poverty, feed 125,000 children and youth. Classroom programs about growing food, composting and reducing our ecological footprint, reached 7,000 students last year.

GREEN ROOF

ESRI CANADA'S GARDEN IN THE SKY

ESRI Canada, which provides geographic information systems to organizations, transformed a large paved terrace at its rented office into a rooftop garden. Inspired by a study showing that green roofs reduce urban heat, ESRI partnered with its landlord to create their urban oasis. In addition to improving air quality and reducing energy consumption, ESRI created an additional 7,500 square feet of useable space that is enjoyed by tenants and the surrounding community.

WATER EFFICIENCY

UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK

University Health Network (UHN) gives top priority to recycling, energy and water conservation, pollution prevention (phasing out hazardous chemicals), green procurement and sustainable construction. With two full-time staff in its Energy & Environment department, UHN reduced its annual water consumption by 120 million litres between 2006 and 2009. Staff training programs, energy awareness campaigns, and feedback surveys help maintain

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

EARTH RANGERS

Earth Rangers gives Canadian children—including those in underserved communities—simple tools to make a real difference at home and at school. Its new website hosts a kid-friendly fundraising campaign to protect animals and their habitats, which is a top environmental priority for children. Last year, Earth Rangers launched a permanent, interactive, multi-media live show in its own studio — with broadcast capability — at the Royal Ontario Museum.

GREEN DESIGN

ONE COLE – Diamond and Schmitt Architects, The Daniels Corporation

Proving that a high level of environmental stewardship is compatible with commercial success, The Daniels Corporation and Diamond and Schmitt Architects built this condominium despite the additional costs of green construction, neighbourhood stigma and a sluggish economy. With features such as low-VOC materials, in-suite heat recovery ventilators, and a 1,200-square-foot Living Wall Bio-Filter that draws air through a wall of living plants before distributing it through the ventilation system, One Cole is built to LEED Gold certification standards.

YOUTH

GREEN COLLAR CORPS Toronto Community Housing

Offering year-round environmental education, community service and outreach, Green Collar Corps (GCC) creates green-job pathways for teens living in Toronto Community Housing. Participants in GCC's Eco-institute and paid summer Eco-internship program complete an environmental literacy curriculum, develop and conduct educational activities—their Recycling Trade Show and Eco-Fashion show won accolades—and commit to demonstrate conservation behaviours in their homes and communities.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

WILMAR COURT

For 15 years, Wilmar Court, a seniors' non-profit housing project, has focused on sustainable environmental solutions, proving that older tenants will not only participate in green initiatives, they will take the lead. Most recently, after three years of planning, partnerships, and educating stakeholders, Wilmar Court installed 24 solar panels to pre-heat its domestic hot water. In 2008, Wilmar Court won the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association Go Green Award.

LEADERSHIP

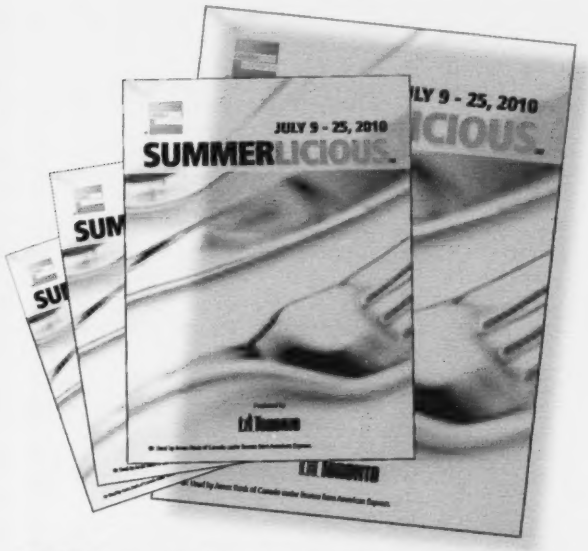
EVERGREEN

With a 10,000-strong volunteer base, Evergreen has helped 1,600 schools to green their grounds. The non-profit organization has planted more than 50,000 trees and shrubs since 2007, and helped 140 youth from priority neighbourhoods turn 18 barren plots into wildflower gardens. Last year, they delivered $688,000 in small seed grants. Evergreen is also working to transform Don Valley Brick Works into a thriving environmental community centre.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT DAYS

Saturday and Sunday events are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday events are 4 to 8 p.m.

DATE	LOCATION	WARD/COUNCILLOR
Saturday June 5	Woodbine Beach Park 1675 Lake Shore Blvd. E. (at Coxwell Ave.)	32 Bussin
Saturday June 5	Stan Wadlow Park 373 Cedarvale Ave. (east of Woodbine Ave.)	31 Davis
Thursday June 10	North Toronto Memorial Arena 174 Orchard View Blvd. (Yonge St., north of Eglinton Ave. W.)	16 Stintz
Saturday June 12	Riverdale Park E. along Broadview Ave. (north of Gerrard St. E.)	30 Fletcher
Sunday June 13	Wychwood Barns Park Wychwood Ave. (south of St. Clair Ave. W., east of Christie St.)	21 Mihevc
Saturday June 19	Commander Park Arena 140 Commander Blvd. (off McCowan, south of Huntingwood)	41 Lee
Saturday June 19	Etienne Brûlé Park (east of Humber River) enter off Catherine St., from Old Mill Dr.	13 Saundercook
Saturday June 26	Richview Collegiate 1738 Islington Ave. (at Eglinton Ave. W.)	4 Lindsay Luby
Saturday June 26	Colonel Samuel Smith Park Kipling Ave./Lake Shore Blvd. W. (Powerhouse parking lot)	6 Grimes
Saturday July 3	Black Creek Pioneer Village 1000 Murray Ross Pkwy. (east of Jane St., off Steeles Ave.)	8 Perruzza
Saturday July 3	Central Technical School 725 Bathurst St. (enter at Borden St. and Harbord St.)	20 Vaughan
Saturday July 10	Loretto College School 151 Rosemount Ave. (west of Dufferin St.)	17 Palacio
Sunday July 11	Dufferin Mall 900 Dufferin St. (south of Bloor St. W.)	18 Giambrone
Saturday July 17	Ramsden Works Yard 1008 Yonge. St. (across from Rosedale subway station)	27 Rae
Saturday July 17	Leaside Memorial Gardens 1073 Millwood Rd. (at Laird Dr.)	26 Parker
Sunday August 15	Woodbine Centre 500 Rexdale Blvd. (at Highway 27)	2 Ford
Saturday August 21	Toronto Parking Authority Lot 3885 Yonge St. (south of York Mills Rd.)	25 Jenkins
Saturday August 21	Stonegate Plaza 150 Berry Rd. (at Stephen Dr., east of Park Lawn Rd.)	5 Milczyn
Thursday August 26	Colonel Danforth Park 73 Colonel Danforth Trail (at Kingston Rd.)	44 Moeser
Thursday Sept 2	Carmine Stefano C.C. (rear parking lot) 3100 Weston Rd. (west side, north of Sheppard Ave.)	7 Mammoliti
Saturday Sept 4	L'Amoreaux Community Recreation Centre enter off McNicoll Ave. (just west of Kennedy Rd.)	39 Del Grande
Saturday Sept 18	Toronto Hydro Building (rear parking lot) 2 Civic Centre Court (the West Mall and Burnhamthorpe Rd.)	3
Saturday October 2	Agincourt Mall 3850 Sheppard Ave. E. (at Kennedy Rd.)	40



WHILE out and about the city this summer, you're bound to get hungry. Summerlicious presented by American Express is the perfect way to support Toronto's diverse restaurant industry while experiencing a top-notch meal at a great price. With 150 fine-dining restaurants across Toronto offering three-course prix-fixe menus from July 9 to 25, Summerlicious offers restaurant lovers an opportunity to satisfy their appetites for delicious food and perhaps discover a new favourite restaurant in the process!

toronto.ca/special_events
toronto.ca/summerlicious

toronto.ca/environment_days
or call 311